

VERSION WITH MARKINGS SHOWING CHANGES MADE TO CLAIMS

1. (Amended) [Valve for an aerosol container, the] A valve comprising:
a valve body defining a metering chamber in communication with a dispensing passage; and,
a valve stem having [a] the dispensing passage and a transfer passage [, and] contacting [said valve stem,] and slidably movable with respect to
a first sealing ring including a first sealing portion;
[the valve stem being slidably movable relative to the sealing ring from a valve-closed position to a valve-open position in which the interior of the valve body is in communication with the dispensing passage,]
wherein the sealing ring further includes a first wiper adapted to wipe the valve stem.

2. (Amended) [Valve] The valve according to claim 1, [wherein the valve body has a metering chamber,] further including:
a sampling chamber; and, [and therebetween is provided]
a second sealing ring[,] including a second sealing portion, [within which the stem is slidably movable, the valve stem having a transfer passage such that]
wherein, in [the] a valve-closed position, the dispensing is isolated from the metering chamber and the metering chamber is in communication with the sampling chamber via said transfer passage, [and]
wherein, in the valve-open position, the dispensing passage is in communication with the metering chamber and the transfer passage is isolated from the metering chamber, and,
wherein the second sealing ring further includes a second wiper adapted to wipe the valve stem.

3. (Amended) [Valve] The valve according to [either of claims 1 or 2] claim 1, wherein the first and/or second wiper is [an] integral [part of the sealing ring or] to the first and/or second sealing ring, respectively.

US Serial No.: nya
Applicant Docket No.: PG3736USW
Int'l Appln. No.: PCT/EP00/06226

4. (Amended) [Valve] The valve according to [any of claims 1 to 3] claim 2, wherein the first and/or second wiper [of the sealing ring or second sealing ring is in curved contact with the valve stem] includes first and/or second curved portions, respectively.

5. (Amended) [Valve] The valve according to [any of claims 1 to 4] claim 4, [wherein there is] including an enclosed space between the first and/or second wiper[, the sealing portion and the seal-receiving part of] and the valve stem.

6. (Amended) [Valve] The valve according to [any of claims 1 to 5] claim 5, wherein the [stem-receiving parts of the seal and wiper have] first and/or second sealing portions include first and/or second square cut edges, respectively.

7. (Amended) [Valve] The valve according to [any of claims 1 to 5] claim 2 wherein the [stem-receiving parts of the seal and wiper] first and/or second sealing portions [have] include first and/or second rounded edges, respectively..

8. (Amended) [Valve] The valve according to [any of claims 1 to 5] claim 2, wherein the [stem-receiving part of the] first and/or second wiper [is] includes first and/or second tapered portions, respectively [pointed].

9. (Amended) [Valve] The valve according to [any of claims 1 to 8] claim
2, [wherein the seal and wiper are spaced by a] further including a first and/or
second layer of [supporting] rigid material supporting the first and/or second
wiper and sealing portion, respectively.

10. (Amended) [Valve] The valve according to claim 9 wherein [said] the
first and/or second layer [rigid material] is constructed from a material selected

US Serial No.: nya
Applicant Docket No.: PG3736USW
Int'l Appln. No.: PCT/EP00/06226
from the group consisting of a polybutylterephthalate, polyoxymethylene, [a] metal and nylon.

11. (Amended) [Valve] The valve according to [any of claims 1 to 10] claim 2, wherein the [stem receiving part of the seal is] first and/or second sealing portions include first and/or second lobed portions, respectively.

Kindly cancel claim 12.

13. (Amended) [Valve] The valve according to [any of claims 1 to 12] claim 2, wherein the first and/or second sealing ring [and/or second sealing ring is formable by a] constructed by moulding [process].

14. (Amended) [Valve] The valve according to claim 13 wherein the [moulding process] first and/or second sealing ring is made by compression moulding or injection moulding.

15. (Amended) [Valve] The valve according to [any of claims 1 to 14] claim 2, wherein the first and/or second sealing ring[, second sealing ring and wiper are] is formed from an elastomeric material.

16. (Amended) [Valve] The valve according to claim 15 wherein [said] the elastomeric material is selected from the group consisting of:

- [(a)] a thermoplastic elastomer comprising] a copolymer of about 80 to about 95 [percent] mole% ethylene and [a total of] about 5 to about 20 [percent mole percent] mole% of one or more of 1-butene, 1-hexene and 1-octene;
- [(b)] a styrene-ethylene/butylene-styrene block copolymer;
- [(c)] an ethylene propylene diene rubber [(EPDM)];
- [(d)] a thermoplastic elastomer blend of EPDM] a styrene-ethylene/butylene-styrene dispersed in a polypropylene or polyethylene matrix;
- [(e)] a butyl polyethylene;

US Serial No.: nya
Applicant Docket No.: PG3736USW
Int'l Appln. No.: PCT/EP00/06226

[(f)] a butyl-polypropylene; and
[any] mixtures thereof.

17. (Amended) [Valve] The valve according to [any of claims 1 to 16] claim 2, wherein the [sealing ring] first and/or second sealing ring is [not movable] fixed relative to the valve body.

18. (Amended) [Valve] The valve according to claim 17, wherein the [sealing ring] first and/or second sealing ring is [held] fixed within a cavity in the valve body.

19. (Amended) [Valve] The valve according to [any of claims 1 to 18] claim 1, wherein the stem [comprises] includes a lubricant [material].

20. (Amended) [Valve] The valve according to [any of claims 1 to 19] claim 1, wherein the [sealing ring] first and/or second sealing ring [comprises] includes a lubricant [material].

21. (Amended) A drug product comprising:
an aerosol [Aerosol] container [comprising a valve according to any of claims 1 to 20] in communication with
a valve body defining a metering chamber in communication with a dispensing passage; and,
a valve stem having the dispensing passage and a transfer passage contacting and slidably movable with respect to
a first sealing ring including a first sealing portion;
wherein the sealing ring further includes a first wiper adapted to wipe the valve stem.

20220107-007676007

US Serial No.: nya

Applicant Docket No.: PG3736USW

Int'l Appln. No.: PCT/EP00/06226

22. (Amended) The drug product of claim 21, [Aerosol container according to claim 21] further comprising a suspension of a medicament in a propellant contained within the aerosol container.

23. (Amended) [Aerosol container] The drug product according to claim 22, wherein[,] the propellant is liquified HFA134a or HFA-227 [and] or mixtures thereof.

24. (Amended) [Aerosol container] The drug product according to [either of claims 22 or 23] claim 22, wherein the medicament is selected from the group consisting of albuterol, salmeterol, fluticasone [propionate], beclomethasone [dipropionate], salts, esters or solvates thereof, and [any combination] combinations thereof.

25. (Amended) [Aerosol container] The drug product according to claim 24 wherein [said combination] the medicament comprises salmeterol xinafoate and fluticasone propionate.

P003736-012262

US Serial No.: nya
Applicant Docket No.: PG3736USW
Int'l Appln. No.: PCT/EP00/06226

REMARKS

Claims 1-11 and 13-25 are pending. Claim 12 has been cancelled without prejudice to the filing of subsequent claims directed to the subject matter therein. The claims have been amended to more appropriately conform to U.S. practice and to reduce the filing fee by deleting multiple dependencies. Applicants further attach on a separate sheet an Abstract as required by U.S. practice. Applicants have also amended the specification to add the priority information.

The claims have been amended to more broadly and comprehensively particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter applicant regards as the invention. Support for the amendments is found in the application as originally filed. No new matter has been added. A favorable first action on the merits is solicited.

20220107-041676007

Date: 22 Jan 2002

Respectfully submitted,



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